

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : (To Be Assigned) Confirmation No. : (TBA)
Applicant : Joachim HUSTER
Filed : February 13, 2004
TC/A.U. : (To Be Assigned)
Examiner : (To Be Assigned)
Docket No. : 080443.53052US
Customer No. : 23911
Title : INTERNAL-COMBUSTION ENGINE HAVING
BALANCING SHAFTS

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

STATEMENT OF RELEVANCE

The relevance of German Reference Document DE 42 38 148 to the subject matter of the present invention is given in the Background and Summary of the Invention in the specification of the present invention.

CONCISE EXPLANATION OF NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE DOCUMENTS

An English abstract and a U.S. counterpart of German Patent No. DE 100 33 416 (corresponding U.S. 2003/0000495) and German Patent No. DE 198 55 562 (corresponding U.S. Patent 6,253,725) are submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no certification under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

If necessary, the paper should be considered as a petition for consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(2) and that the petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(3) should be charged to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket No. 080443.53052US).

Respectfully submitted,

February 13, 2004



Donald D. Evenson
Registration No. 26,160

CROWELL & MORING, LLP
Intellectual Property Group
P.O. Box 14300
Washington, DC 20044-4300
Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844
DDE:alw

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| FORM PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce Patent & Trademark Office INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i> | Attorney Docket No. 080443.53052US | Serial No. (To Be Assigned) |
| | Applicants: Joachim HUSTER | |
| | Filing Date February 13, 2004 | Group (To Be Assigned) |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----|-----------------|------------|-----------------|-------|-----------|------------------------------|
| Examiner Initial | | Document Number | Date | Name | Class | Sub-Class | Filing Date (if appropriate) |
| | AA | 2003/0000495 | 01/02/2003 | Groddeck et al. | 123 | 195 | 07/03/2001 |
| | AB | 6,253,725 | 07/03/2001 | Groddeck et al. | 123 | 195 | 12/02/1999 |
| | AC | | | | | | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | | |
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| Examiner Initial | | Document Number | Date | Name | Class | Sub-Class | TRANSLATION | |
| | | | | | | | Yes | No |
| | AK | DE 100 33 416 | 06/21/2001 | Groddeck et al. | | | Abstract | |
| | AL | DE 198 55 562 | 05/31/2000 | Groddeck et al. | | | Abstract | |
| | A M | DE 42 38 148 | 05/19/1994 | Meurer et al. | | | Abstract | |
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| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) | | | | | | | |
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| | AQ | | | | | | |
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| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
| EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication. | |